



# Chalk Talk

Greetings | Feature | News | DESIGN

**PLEASE SHARE CHALK TALK WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES!!!**

## Letter from the Editor

Dear Educators,

I bicycled to work today along a 5 km bike path that wends its way through a beautiful park that overlooks a lake. For the first half of my ride, I was joined by many other joggers and cyclists wearing colourful athletic clothing and footwear. Then, BMWs, Fords and Audis whiz by as I follow part of the route that runs parallel to a main route into the city core. Soon, the path cuts north to follow an abandoned rail bed that's a bit shabby with lots of billboards. The last leg cuts through an industrial area repurposed to condos and funky retail.

It occurred to me that while I see trees and sky and water on my short journey and have the feeling of commuting with nature, Nature didn't have much of a hand in planning the things I encounter on my route. The path, the park, the clothes, as well as, the roads, cars, billboards and buildings were all designed by people. Not to say that all design is appealing, but it is everywhere.

In the 21st century, design is no longer a luxury but a necessity whose influence is felt in the green space in cities, infrastructure, technology, manufacturing, urban planning, signage, street furnishings, and public transportation. Virtually everywhere we look, design has become an integral part of our everyday lives, from products to packaging, from buildings to clothing, from transportation to print and new media. As a result, design theory can directly apply to many facets of the school curriculum and greatly enrich the study of the visual arts, social sciences, technology, science and history.

From the window in my office, I can see the school across the street. Today, I wondered, "What are they designing in there?". The future, no doubt.

This week's issue of *Chalk Talk* features an exciting design competition for high school students.

CoEd Communications is dedicated to supporting the important work of teachers by providing classroom resources on a range of topics. We invite you to visit our website at [www.4edu.ca](http://www.4edu.ca) to view the many free teachers' resources on offer.

[As always, your feedback is important to us.](#)

*David Benn*

Guest Editor, Founder, CoEd

## Design in the Classroom



The Design Exchange (DX) creates and hosts innovative and thought-provoking exhibitions about Canadian and international design. These exhibitions, related publications, lectures and education programs serve to inspire and inform Canadians about the role design plays in Canada and around the world.

The DX delivers exhibit tours, workshops, competitions and outreach programs to support the primary and secondary school curriculum in the area of design and technology. In all of its education programs, the Design Exchange supports a holistic, interdisciplinary, collaborative and inclusive approach to design by facilitating cross collaboration among the design disciplines.



**14<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION**

### The 14th Annual Canadian High School Design Competition!

Design Brief and entry guidelines for the 2009 Competition are now available. For more information, see **Website of the Week** below. For complete details, click [here](#).

### Design Traveller

This virtual exhibit of objects from the Design Exchange Collection of industrial design from the 50's to the present, offers teachers resources and classroom activities that will inspire budding young designers (ages 8 and up). Go to [www.designtraveller.com](http://www.designtraveller.com).

### Designers in the Classroom

Launched in Fall 2003, this program brings professional designers into primary and secondary school classrooms to develop design projects that enrich the current curriculum and broaden the roles of designers in their communities. To participate, contact [education@dx.org](mailto:education@dx.org) or call 416. 216.2138.

**DESIGNERS in the Classroom**

Generously sponsored by:



[Source: The Design Exchange]

The **Design Exchange** is proud to announce the **14th Annual Canadian High School Design Competition** which promotes the study and awareness of various design disciplines in schools across Canada. The competition is open to all high school students, at the junior (grades 10 and below) and senior (grades 11 and above) levels.

The National Research Council of Canada (NRC) will award the George J. Klein Medal to the overall winning entry of this competition. All winning and honourable mention entries will receive certificates.

Cash awards are presented for first, second, and third placements at both the senior and junior levels, in each of the following four categories:

**INDUSTRIAL DESIGN: RECREATIONAL FURNITURE**

The challenge is to design a line of outdoor furniture elements that create a sense of space and collective purpose, with teens in mind.

**FASHION DESIGN: RECLAIMED JEWELLERY**

Why design things using new materials, when you can rescue materials from the landfill? The challenge is to select objects or materials that frequently end up in your trash bin. Determine how these items could be repurposed into a collection of jewellery pieces.

**ARCHITECTURE / INTERIOR DESIGN: INFORMATION PAVILION**

The challenge is to design a pavilion of no more than 46 square meters (500 square feet) in size, to be used as a tourist gathering area in your community. Your design should take your local climate into consideration and your average tourist volume.

**GRAPHIC DESIGN: 2010 COMPETITION LOGO**

The challenge is to design the 2010 Canadian High School Design Competition logo, considering the target audience and the cross discipline approach of the competition.

[NOTE: The 2009 Competition Logo (shown, right) was designed by Steve Sullivan, Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, Kingston Ontario.]

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please visit our website [www.dx.org](http://www.dx.org), or contact Katie Weber at, p: 416.216.2138 f: 416.368.0684 email: [katie@dx.org](mailto:katie@dx.org)

Canadian High School DESIGN COMPETITION



2009 Categories

- Industrial Design
- Recreational Furniture
- Fashion Design
- Reclaimed Jewellery
- Architecture / Interior Design
- Information Pavilion
- Graphic Design
- 2010 Competition Logo

14th ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION



facebook LAUNCH

Are You A Fan?

The Right To Play Canadian School Program [facebook](#) page was launched in September.

You can visit our page (and figure out what all the fuss is about) by signing up at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). All you need is to indicate your name, e-mail address, password, gender and date of birth. It's free, easy, and very educational!

Once signed up, and logged in, type **Right To Play Canadian School Program** in the *Search* box. Click on our Group. There you'll find photos, feedback from teachers who have implemented the program as well as games, videos and journal entries from Athlete Ambassadors.

[Become a Fan](#) (upper right part of the screen) and you can contribute your experiences to the School Program community. [Post a comment](#) on [The Wall](#), [Add Photos](#), contribute to or [Start a New Topic](#) on the [Discussion Board](#). Right To Play would love to hear from you!

## Education News and Related Articles

[Learning infused with arts—Cultural groups partner with classes to enrich a community in need](#) — Louise Brown, *TheStar.com*, October 7, 2008

“Day by day since the first week of school, the plain concrete front of Market Lane Public School has taken on the faces of the people within. With the help of Inner City Angels and shards of colourful tile, students and teachers have created a mural of mosaic self-portraits that signals a bold new arts focus within.” [More...](#)

[Finding the right focus—Not all high-school grads know what they want to do. Choosing an indirect path can still lead to success](#) — Mike Funston, *TheStar.com*, October 9, 2008

Erin Mazzara had a vague notion that she wanted to be involved in showbiz after leaving high school. But she wasn't sure which profession to pursue within the entertainment industry. So, she took theatre arts at Brock University for a year, decided that wasn't for her and switched to a media program in second year that would have groomed her for a journalism career. Not knowing what to do in third year, she looked at other options, and considered a TV and film program at Humber College. She applied, but it was too late to be accepted. [More...](#)

[Future of building looks green—New Humber program responds to demand for energy-efficient homes](#) — Tracy Hanes, *TheStar.com*, March 27, 2008

“Students in a new Humber College course will be on the leading green edge of the building industry. The three-year, full-time Sustainable Energy and Building Technology (SEBT) program, which launches in September, focuses on renewable energy and aspects of building design and construction that influence energy efficiency.” [More...](#)

[Green walls, roof gardens are key elements in St. Gabriel's Church design](#) — Dan O'Reilly, Correspondent, *Daily Commercial News*, October 20, 2008

“Spiritual beliefs and a concern for the environment are mutually compatible goals for members of St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic Passionist Church in Toronto. Not only is it the first place of worship in Canada to achieve LEED certification and possibly the first in North America to obtain a Gold rating, the 750-seat church in the Bayview/Sheppard area is also one of the three finalists in the 2007 Toronto Green Awards held this May.”

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